

Remarks

Claims 1, 5 and 8 were previously pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, the applicant has amended claim 1, cancelled claim 8, and added new claim 20. No new matter has been added by this amendment. Accordingly, claims 1, 5, and 20 are before the Examiner for consideration.

The amendments to the claims have been made in an effort to lend greater clarity to the claimed subject matter and to expedite prosecution. These amendments should not be taken to indicate the applicant's agreement with, or acquiescence to, the rejections of record. Favorable consideration of the claims now presented, in view of the remarks and amendments set forth herein, is earnestly solicited.

Initially, the applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 1 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,866,663). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection to the extent it might be applied to the claims now presented for examination.

Please note that the limitation of previous claim 8, to which this rejection was not applied has now been incorporated into claim 1. The cited reference does not disclose or suggest the claimed invention. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Edwards *et al.*

In view of the foregoing remarks, and the amendments to the claims, the applicant believes that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§§1.16, 1.17, or 1.492 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

The applicant also invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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